



Wages for Doing Farm Work.

We find in the monthly report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for January, an important statistical paper on the subject of the wages of farm laborers, prepared by Mr. J. R. Dodge, the statistician of the Department, and embodying the work of two or three months in the collection of facts and their compilation. The data may, therefore, be deemed reliable. Circumstances soliciting information upon the subject, were sent into all parts of the United States, and the answers received evinced a wide interest in the subject. From the remarks made in connection with the table presented, which we cannot well reproduce in our columns, we give the following extracts as being of interest:

"The result of the inquiry shows a general and marked increase in the rate of wages paid farm laborers during the last thirty years. As compared with the rate in 1835, the increase has been 70 per cent., while the present rate is 100 per cent. higher than in 1835, or over twice of five years ago. The higher wages paid in this country, and the greater comfort and higher social position of the farm laborer, naturally attracted foreigners, and the greatly increased immigration, as well as the greater number of laborers, early in the spring as they should. Is an entire arrestment broken? Better get a new one now than to break down in planting or having time, and then feel that the thing broke right in the most hurried season of the year. Now is just the best time to anticipate all of these difficulties as to avoid them. Perhaps you have got out a few mill logs. See that they are got to mill so as to have them sawed when you can best attend to them. It is very convenient on a farm to have a few joists, timber and boards. A hard wood log sawed up into boards and joist of different dimensions comes into play in a most wonderful manner at times, before the year rolls round. A sound oak, maple or birch log should be carefully saved for this purpose. Timber for a harrow, bed piers for a cart body, a piece of timber for a cart tongue, will rarely ever be out of place, while smaller stuff for pins, rake-teeth and other purposes, are always convenient. We should have our planks laid out as early as possible for our year's labor. How much land can you measure well the next year? What portion of your land will you plant and sow? What will your plans for two years in succession? These are great questions to the farmer. Sometimes you may find a nice warm day for grafting in March. If it is warm and dry enough so that the soil will adhere to the bark, we have as good success at this season as any. Plum and cherry trees should be grafted as early as possible.

Who are to be Educated?

"Should be the keynote between its industry and education."

The above sentence is taken from a private letter addressed to one of the editors of the *Farmer*, by a gentleman widely and favorably known as foremost among those engaged in the present movement in behalf of industrial education, in speaking of the proposed Industrial College of our State. It occurs in connection with the statement of an opinion, that the college should have a direct relation with the common school system of the State, and furnish good food for thought. In a subsequent epistle, the same writer, in alluding to the articles of Mr. Barnes, recently published in our columns, remarks: "To my thinking the series lacks one chapter yet: that is one showing in what way the proposed college with which at the most a few hundred or a thousand young men are to be directly benefited, is to comply with the requirement to set forth, of supplying a liberal education to all of the industrial classes of the State, the young men of which are estimated to number 40,000. Of course the few who have the direct benefit of the institution, must be distributors of those benefits to the rest. But this distribution should be securely provided for in a systematic way."

Placing the above extracts from private letters before our readers, for their consideration, and inviting their views upon the matter which they embody, we wish to call attention to two plans for the partial regulation of the admission of students which have already been made, but to which we have heretofore made no allusion.

We believe the suggestion that the proposed college should be directly connected with the common school system of the State, and furnish good food for thought. In a subsequent epistle, the same writer, in alluding to the articles of Mr. Barnes, recently published in our columns, remarks: "To my thinking the series lacks one chapter yet: that is one showing in what way the proposed college with which at the most a few hundred or a thousand young men are to be directly benefited, is to comply with the requirement to set forth, of supplying a liberal education to all of the industrial classes of the State, the young men of which are estimated to number 40,000. Of course the few who have the direct benefit of the institution, must be distributors of those benefits to the rest. But this distribution should be securely provided for in a systematic way."

To Devon Breeders.

The Committee on Devon Pedigrees, appointed by the Association of Breeders of Thoroughbred Neat Stock, have decided to postpone publishing the Devon Herd Book, for a few months, in order to receive more pedigrees. About 350 have been received, and at least 500 are wanted to pay the expense of printing the volume. The first volume, printed in 1863, contained this number, and the second volume will be issued as soon as the above number of pedigrees is received.

The following instructions from the circular of the Association will be of use to those breeders desiring to have the pedigree of their animals inserted: "No pedigree will be inserted other than those of pure-bred animals. No pains will be spared by the Committee to examine each pedigree offered for approval, and, by comparison of pedigrees from different sources and correspondence, to clear all doubtful points. Any person desiring to record the pedigree of an animal can do so by the payment of fifty cents for each pedigree offered for inspection. Each pedigree should be written out in full, in the form of those in the First Volume, and traced as far back as possible, particular care being taken to the tree, and a small basket in which to put the twigs containing the nests—the work will be performed most satisfactorily. Besides, burning the nests is much better than crushing or sudsing the full grown insects."

The subject of agricultural scholarships, established by the various agricultural societies in the State, was brought up by the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture at its late meeting, and a resolve passed recommending "each agricultural society, residing within the limits of said Society, and in the selection of candidates, preference should be given to such as propose to devote themselves to agricultural pursuits within the limits of said Society." In submitting this, for the consideration of our readers we present the following regarding the same, from the *Massachusetts Ploughman*:

"This would be a good and judicious investment on the part of any society, but if the officers and members were not disposed to do it, why might not wealthy and influential individuals in each agricultural district found such a school? It would be a service through the society to such deserving young men, as far as it is in their power to do it, if they choose, as would certify that it is their intention to return to locate upon farms in the district where the society having such a scholarship within its gift, and the scholars in each agricultural district would be more likely to avail themselves of the same, than any society to set apart annually from its own funds for this purpose, but there is an advantage in having the thing permanent and not dependent upon the action of any board of officers, every year. We therefore suggest this thing to individual agricultural societies as worthy of their consideration, and we hope the example will not pass without its favorable consideration."

The Industrial College.

We will gratify every friend of industrial education in our State, to know that the present Legislature has unanimously passed the resolution, giving twenty thousand dollars to the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts. This insures its success beyond a doubt, and guarantees its complete establishment. The amount it is understood, will be appropriated to the erection of two buildings—one designed for the Chemical Laboratory, Lecture-rooms and Museum, and the other to supply the home wants of the pupils; and work upon them will be commenced early in the spring.

In this connection we wish to acknowledge the receipt of copies of the annual reports of the Trustees and Treasurer of the Institution, together with the report of the architect, Mr. Fred Law Olmsted, of New York, to which we shall refer at length another week.

Plaster on Sandy Land. We have long thought favorably of using plaster on sandy lands in this State. We cannot tell how it operates, but we know of seeing its operation for thirty-five years past on sandy land that its effects are most marked. A liberal investment of plaster in conjunction with other manures, is in our judgment advisable when we wish to raise potatoes, or clover. Mix it with horse manure in winter, and add double to the value of the manure. As a top-dressing we could never realize our money back. Others may have succeeded better. The only exception may be when we have sowed it in early spring on a clover catch of the preceding year. We use some every year as a manure, and our conviction is, that we have never used half enough, especially in conjunction with animal

Blacksmiths' and Machinists' Variable Feed Bench Drill.



The accompanying cut represents one of the most perfect and easily operating Self-Feeding Drills that has ever been offered to the public. In almost every step it will save to the proprietor in a few months, in time and expense, twice its cost.

The following, among other testimonials, shows the estimation in which this bench drill is held by intelligent machinists:

Moses Dodge & Wellington-Gentlemen: We have had one of your Patent Blacksmiths' Drills in operation in our shop, for several weeks, and find that it far exceeds our expectations. For a labor-saving machine, we have never seen its equal, considering the expense. It is safe to say that we shall save the cost of the machine every two weeks. **Gilbert E. Siegars, Henry Parker, Foremen.** **S. H. Bowler's Manufacturer:**

I fully approve and endorse the above statement.—**S. H. Bowler, Proprietor.** Worcester, Mass., Feb. 9, 1867.

For further information address the proprietors, Dodge & Wellington, Worcester, Mass.

Notes from Our Copy Drawer.

A Useful Invention. One of the best devices we have ever seen for the purpose intended, is an adjustable fixture to be attached to the end of a leading staff for the purpose of handling bulls, got up by Mr. John R. Arey of Brigadoon, Isle, Searsport. The iron part goes into the end of a wooden staff about five feet long, into a ring which ends being made to renew their combs, their heads will die cut because bees cannot be reared to supply the already dead swarms; the place being too limited for raising young, and less desirable than those increase. The movable comb is a wooden frame, which is always to any or all the combs can be removed at pleasure, and empty frames substituted in their stead, which they will readily fill up with new combs and honey, if done at the proper time. The presence of queen, bees, workers, or drones, the amount of honey, will be known at all times. The presence of bees cannot be detected in old combs without cutting into them, as the bees fill the cells nearly full of bread and the balance in empty cells, which is a great disadvantage.

Something about Bee Culture.—**No. 2.**

For the Maine Farmer.

STATIONARY COMB HIVES AND MOBILE FRAME HIVES—ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES.

Those who use the stationary comb hive when they want any honey are obliged to destroy their bees and colonies to obtain it, and when they have done so, the comb is blackened and the bees are gone, a large amount of honey, and the honey brings but one-third to one-half as much as box honey. They have many late swarms which fail to obtain enough honey to winter without feeding, and as they seldom feed them, they are lost. It is a safe rule to make a general annihilation of all bees, and they are destroyed. Over swarming also weakens the parent colony by their getting reduced so much that enough animal heat cannot be kept up, and that is the consequence. When there is once killed, after the bees have swarmed, the comb is blackened, and the bees are gone, a large amount of honey, and the honey brings but one-third to one-half as much as box honey. They have many late swarms which fail to obtain enough honey to winter without feeding, and as they seldom feed them, they are lost. 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Augusta, Thursday, March 7, 1867.

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.
Mr. V. D. DARLING will call on subscribers in Washington during the month of April.
Mr. J. C. BROWN will call upon subscribers in West Kennebunk during the month of April.
Mr. M. B. TAYLOR is on a visit to our subscribers in Oxford County.

Mr. B. F. WADE is now on a visiting and canvassing tour to Upper Penobscot and Aroostook Counties.

The Laws of Association.

Every thought of our lives is controlled by certain laws. Whatever we think or whatever emotions we may have, they follow each other in regular order. When we see a particular object, it suggests another similar. We are away from home. We see a little child, and it suggests to our thoughts our own child, or those of our own family. We do not intend here to notice all the laws by which our minds are controlled, but only such as may serve to illustrate a special purpose. Much of the happiness of our lives depends on the right exercise of our thoughts and emotions. When away from home we make a picture in our minds of our pleasant home. The house, the trees and garden and orchard, and even the old pump serve to make the foreground. This picture calls up the whole history of our past lives with all its pleasant emotions. We look around us when away from home. It may be a lonely spot. Nature and art have combined to make it so, but it kindles no emotions, because there is no association with the past, and we only contrast it with our own humble home far away, elsewhere, there is no place to us like home.

The greater our personal interests in our own homes the better we shall enjoy them. Dr. Harlow, the Superintendent of the Insane Hospital, says in his recent report, that many of the inmates assist in carrying on the farm, and take a lively interest in their work under the impression that they are the real possessors of the land and crops. A wonderful effect nature makes here to restore the lost reason to its healthful condition. "A boy to his home by making him plant a tree," said a distinguished lecturer recently in our hearing. The boy who plants trees, who owns a little patch of potatoes, or has a calf or a sheep, is never happier in this life than when he surveys his little possessions at home.

The feelings which those more advanced in years experience, whenever the past is called up before the present, illustrate one subject. They are not so full of ardor as the young. A new school-house is to be built. The young want all the modern improvements; the aged think the old are good enough. It reminds them of the pleasant scenes which they enjoyed when they attended school, and with these comes up before their minds the old school-house which was good enough for them. The young should bear these things in mind when reasoning with the aged. Instead of calling them old foggies, and such epithets as are unbecoming, it is far better to sympathize with them, even if you find yourself compelled to act differently.

Whenever a person advanced in years moves far away from the scene of his earlier life, he is never happy with his new situation. His mind constantly turns to his old home. Everything centers there, and the chances that he will be unhappy and discontented. It is said that an old man lived down with fourscore years, who had always lived on the same spot, was one day induced to go into the field where his sons and grandsons were plowing. Suddenly the plow struck a root which was hidden beneath the soil. The old man came near, and though he could not recall the events of the previous day, yet he remembered the fact that sixty years before, he fell that tree, the first he cut towards clearing up the farm, and he begged his boys to let it remain. "I will plant a tree by its side," said his grandson, "so as to know where it is." How beautifully the dead past was linked to the living present in this little transaction. That boy's hold on the same spot will be as fixed as that of his grandfather.

Much has been said on the subject of living in Maine, and a multitude of arguments have been advanced with more or less force to induce our young men to remain at home. We believe that by these same laws of association, a young man will have less to struggle with who seeks a home in his native State. He will not be compelled to violate so many of the laws of his being. The associations formed in youth will not be violently assailed and broken up as they certainly will, he should go far from home. A other character we met with was Bro. Tracy of the Telegraph. He is making a raid upon the manufacturer of kerosene by experimenting and showing the properties of the various substances which go to make up a most dangerous compound. A few attacks made in this way will be quite as likely to impress the quality of kerosene as legislative action, and we trust that while the cows are not running at large, he will continue his investigations until manufacturers will not dare to palm off the public such dangerous substances.

CHANGES IN BUSINESS. One has only to look at the history of any of the older towns in this State, to see that great changes have taken place in the character of the business of these places. We were forcibly struck by this fact while stopping at Brunswick recently. In the earliest history of the State, thousands of barrels of sturgeon and salmon were caught here and exported. Now not a solitary fish is caught. Forty years ago there were thirty saw-mills running night and day, in summer and winter. Now there are only three. Their lumber was brought from the head waters of the Androscoggin. Now not a log comes from that source to Brunswick unless by accident. Booms at Berlin Falls, Bethel and Lewiston fall, catch them all. Now they obtain their logs from the Kennebec river and raft them up the Androscoggin to Brunswick to be sawed. Formerly the cost was lined with wood coasters, carrying wood to Boston and elsewhere. Now vessels are employed to bring coal abroad for fuel. Thus we might enumerate the many changes in business within the lapses of a century. But when we apply the principle to agricultural products, we witness but little change, only what arises from greater production. Corn, hay, oats, rye, apples and potatoes, still find a market. This is a peculiarity of the human mind not yet fully understood, that leads to these lamentable results. We have repeatedly known men who were well off in this world's goods, had always lived happily in their families, and to the very last moment appeared of perfect mind, but the next moment they proceed to take their own lives. Such a waste of life demands special attention from philanthropists, and the medical profession. It is high time that special attention should be paid to this subject, so as to gun persons inclined to self-destruction against such an act. We know that when such a case occurs it is usually attributed to insanity, and this is a charitable view of it; but if it is from this cause, it certainly in a great majority of cases must be of a peculiar character. We rarely ever knew a case where there was incoherence of language or lack of deliberation in action. We think a more careful investigation of this subject would reveal facts that would lead to a change in public sentiment, and to a tendency to deter a great many from any attempts at self-destruction. Philanthropy certainly demands attention to this subject, while the painful scenes witnessed by near friends should be far fewer than at present.

INTERESTING TO HORSE OWNERS. Mr. W. E. Wilder, the well-known horse-trainer, who is said to be master of his profession, will visit Augusta on Thursday, a mile from the river, on the Whiteside road, was entered on Thursday night last and robbed of 29 bushels barley, 16 bushels of Indian meal and five meal-bags. The thief was discovered the next morning and the robbers traced to this city, but the evidence obtained has not yet been sufficient to warrant their arrest. City Marshal Jones, however, is engaged in working up the case, with a fair prospect that the rascals engaged in the transaction will get their deserts.

THE PRESIDENT HAS ISSUED A PROCLAMATION ANNUALIZING THAT THE LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA HAD PASSED AN ACT ACCEPTING AND RATIFYING THE FUNDAMENTAL CONDITIONS OF EQUAL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES, WITH REGARD TO COLOR, AS REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF ADMISSION, AND DECLARING THAT THE ADMISSION OF SAID STATE INTO THE UNION IS NOW COMPLETE.

THE LAST OF THE LOVSES FOR THE SEASON WAS GIVEN BY THE LADIES OF THE UNITARIAN SOCIETY AT CITY HALL ON MONDAY AND THE MOST SUCCESSFUL AFFAIR, AND THE FRIENDS OF THE SOCIETY HAVE REASON TO BE GRATEFUL AT THE PEAK OF THE SEASON. The total receipts exceeded \$1,000.

THE ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS AT THE DURIG BUSINESS COLLEGE HAS INCREASED NEAR 60 PER CENT WITHIN TWO WEEKS. This is conclusive evidence that the new Principal, Prof. Fletcher, is the "right man in the right place." The teachers are determined that the College shall stand second to none in the State.

WE ARE SORRY TO SEE THAT SOME OF OUR AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES ARE IN TROUBLE. The buildings and grounds of the South Kennebec Society at Gardiner have recently been sold, and the Androscoggin Society has forfeited its grounds.

THE RECEIPTS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE, REQUIRE HERESY AND HEADING. Mr. Geo. E. Scribner, of this city, has a very promising three-year-old colt, sired by the Witherspoon. He treated his half mile recently in 1 minute 46 seconds.

THE RECEIPTS OF CUSTOMS OF THE PORT OF NEW YORK FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, WERE \$11,452,204 AGAINST \$12,015,000 IN THE CORRESPONDING MONTH OF LAST YEAR, SHOWING A DECREASE OF ONLY \$566,458.

INSPECTION OF KAROONIE. The act passed at the recent session of our State Legislature requiring heresies and heading to be officially inspected before they are offered for sale, is one of the most just measures ever enacted, and will, we trust, drive from the market the worthless stuff sold as heresies, that has caused so many dangerous and fatal accidents the past year or two.

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